

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

FREDERICK, Mervyn J., RIKKEN, Johannes M.G., and VOGELS, Arthur G.J.M.

Serial Number: To be assigned Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith Examiner: To be assigned

For: A PACKAGE FOR A VAGINAL RING

Corresponding to: PCT/EP98/08128, filed December 8, 1998

## PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir:

May 31, 2000

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These references were cited in the International Search Report. Copies of the Search Report and cited references are enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be considered during the prosecution of this application and that the cited documents be listed on the front page of any patent issuing from this application.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2334 for any fee which it deems to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 29,772

Attorney Docket NO. 0/97322 US

Akzo Nobel Patent Department 1300 Piccard Drive, Suite 206 Rockville, Maryland 20850-4373

Tel: (301) 948-7400 Fax: (301) 948-9751

WMB:jlc

50FREDERICK-IDS